

## CURRENT INDUSTRIAL REPORTS

# Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders

**July 1970** 



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE / Bureau of the Census

SERIES: M3-1(70)-7

New orders for manufactured products in July increased by 1.7 percent or \$1.0 billion to \$56.6 billion from \$55.6 billion in June, after seasonal adjustment. The increase in new orders was attributable primarily to the aerospace and communications components of the defense products industries. Shipments increased by \$300 million to \$56.9 billion. The backlog of unfilled orders declined to \$83.8 billion from \$84.0 billion at the end of June. Manufacturers' inventories increased \$800 million to \$98.5 billion from \$97.7 billion at the end of June. The inventories to shipments ratio remained unchanged at 1,73.

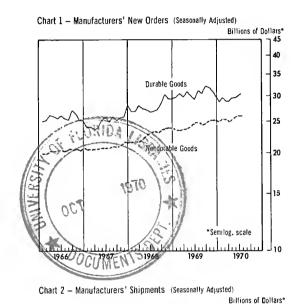
For the three months ending with July, the average change in new orders represents an increase of 2.0 percent compared with a decrease of 0.3 percent for the three months ending with April and a decrease of 1.8 percent for the three months ending with January.

#### **NEW ORDERS**

New orders for durable goods at \$30.7 billion increased \$1.0 billion from June. This 3.3 percent increase revises the preliminary estimate of a 6.1 percent increase published earlier. New orders in the transportation industry increased \$600 million to \$7.8 billion. Among the other major groups recording gains, the electrical machinery industry increased \$400 million and nonelectrical machinery rose \$300 million. New orders for primary metals declined \$100 million to \$4.7 billion and fabricated metals declined \$400 million to \$3.1 billion.

Among the supplementary series, new orders for defense products increased \$1.2 billion to \$3.0 billion. Orders for producers' capital goods increased \$100 million to \$6.5 billion while orders for household durables declined \$100 million to \$2.0 billion. (SEE CHART 1)

FOR RELEASE: September 1, 1970



80 7S 70 65 60 Total 55 50 45 40 35 Durable Goods 30 25 Nondurable Goods 20 15

\*Semilog, scale

#### SHIPMENTS

Shipments of durable goods increased \$400 million to \$31.0 billion as shipments of non-durables decreased \$100 million to \$25.9 billion. Shipments of transportation equipment increased \$200 million to \$7.7 billion. Shipments of non-electrical machinery also increased \$200 million, to \$5.6 billion. Among the nondurable goods industries, the pattern was mixed with the largest dollar decline in the foods industry group. (SEE CHART 2)

#### UNFILLED ORDERS

Unfilled orders of durable goods at \$80.8 billion were \$300 million below the backlog at the end of June. This slight decline reverses the direction of change from the 0.2 percent increase published in the earlier advance report on durable goods. The fabricated metals industry group declined \$200 million to \$10.5 billion. The pattern was mixed among the other durable goods industries, with small increases in electrical machinery and transportation equipment offset by declines in primary metals and nonelectrical machinery. (SEE CHART 3)

#### **INVENTORIES**

Inventories in the durable goods industries increased \$800 million to \$65.2 billion at the end of July while those in the nondurable goods industries decreased slightly to \$33.3 billion. Most major industry groups in the durable sector registered increases in inventories with the largest dollar gain reported by the transportation industry. In the nondurable sector, the pattern was mixed. At the all manufacturing level, finished goods increased \$400 million while work-in-process and materials and supplies inventories each increased \$200 million. (SEE CHART 4)

The advance report on durable goods for August is scheduled for release on September 22 and the full report is scheduled for release on October 1.

For an explanation of terms used in this report see appendix following table 5.

Inquiries concerning these figures should be addressed to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Industry Division, Washington, D.C. 20233.



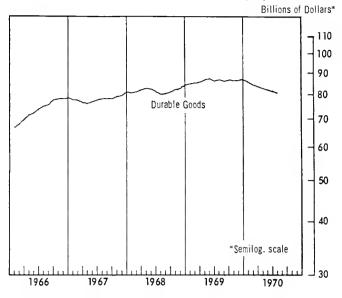
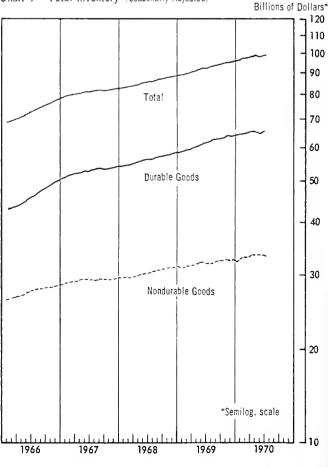


Chart 4 - Total Inventory (Seasonally Adjusted)



(Millions of dollars)

			(Million	is of do	lars)										
	Seasonally adjusted  Without seasonal adjustment					Season	ally adj	justed	Without seasonal adjustment						
Industry group	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970 <sup>r</sup>	May 1970	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970 <sup>r</sup>	July 1969	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970	May 1970	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970	July 1969			
	Shipments							Total inventories							
All manufacturing industries:	56,866	56,528	55,545	52,088	59,255	50,501	98,505	97,739	97,923	98,051	98,073	92,682			
Total Total, excluding transportation	1	49,060	48,036	45,873	51,094	44,277	83,119	82,576	82,564	83,025	83,054	77,909			
Durable goods industries, total	31,016	30,580	30,368	27,825	32,760	27,225	65,193	64,375	64,617	64,870	64,779	61,113			
Stone, clay, and glass products	1,438	1,481	1,478	1,459	1,643	1,407	2,631	2,557	2,575	2,636	2,607	2,468			
Primary metals, total  Blast furnaces, steel mills  All other primary metals	4,874 2,259 2,615	4,930 2,283 2,647	4,822 2,134 2,688	4,449 2,121 2,328	5,205 2,386 2,819	4,360 2,101 2,259	8,621 4,620 4,001	8,608 4,608 4,000	8,649 4,641 4,008	8,544 4,551 3,993	8,491 4,492 3,999	7,729 4,122 3,607			
Fabricated metal products, total Metal cans, barrels, and drums	3,353 306	3,276 298	3,174 289	3,118 338	3,511 335	2,876 327	6,743 682	6,648 697	6,633 689	6,840 733	6,815 759	6,502 736			
Machinery, except electrical, total Engines and turbines Farm machinery and equipment Construction, miniug, and material bandling equipment	5,559 456 450 700	5,389 416 470 712	5,526 460 434 679	5,137 383 399 681	5,877 507 515 787	4,856 389 407 645	13,942 964 1,026 2,466	13,754 950 1,017 2,414	13,672 960 996 2,393	13,812 953 998 2,419	13,743 932 1,009 2,397	12,424 942 918 2,087			
Metalworking machinery General industrial machinery	362 569	344 559	346 552	313 550	375 602	274 45 <b>7</b>	1,146 1,173	1,141	1,139	1,139 1,170	1,139	1,067 1,029			
Electrical machinery, total  Electrical transmission and distribution equipment and industrial apparatus	783	3,950	3,865	3,553 718	4,086	3,536 654	9,670 2,054	9,492	9,498	9,714	9,773	9,092			
Household appliances, including radio and TV	735 1,135	820 1,102	720	674	828 1,159	795 1,006	2,080	1,980 2,863	2,025 2,843	2,138	2,136	2,099 2,639			
Communication equipment  Transportation equipment, total  Motor vehicles and parts	7,694 4,191	7,468 4,116	1,130 7,509 3,940	1,028 6,215 3,018	8,161 4,624	6,224 3,093	2,859 15,386 4,070	15,163 3,940	15,359 4,007	2,839 15,026 3,716	2,909 15,019 3,743	14,773 3,931			
Aircraft, missiles, and parts  Instruments and related products	2,804	2,649	2,862 1,137	2,564	2,761 1,247	2,529	9,235	9,223	9,404	9,259	9,301	8,979			
All other durable goods industries	3,031	2,898	2,857	2,844	3,030	2,943	5,514	5,487	5,554	5,579	5,608	5,689			
Nondurable goods industries, total	25,850	25,948	25,177	24,263	26,495	23,276	33,312	33,364	33,306	33,181	33,294	31,569			
Food and kindred products, total Meat products	8,539 1,795	8,854 1,726	8,476 1,748	8,206 1,750	9,062 1,734	7,809 1,789	7,565 838	7,594 868	7,626 860	7,325 788	7,254 834	7,052			
Tobacco products Textile mill products	1,797	415 1,755	1,742	1,503	1,834	1,507	2,159 3,362	2,149	2,140 3,450	2,001 3,415	2,074 3,496	2,060 3,560			
Paper and allied products, total Pulp, paper, etc	1,068	2,333	2,338 986	2,310 988	2,422 1,025	2,157 921	2,755	2,757 1,092	2,701 1,049	2,786 1,097	2,791 1,086	2,514 962			
Chemicals and allied products, total Industrial chemicals, except pigments	1,441	1,377	4,173 1,404	3,944 1,344	4,383 1,466	3,825 1,306	6,943 2,295	6,893	6,826 2,245	6,937 2,270	6,872 2,243	6,383 2,154			
Petroleum and coal products	2,129 1,624 4,553	2,160 1,535 4,695	2,151 1,486 4,354	2,149 1,472 4,206	2,215 1,623 4,502	2,046 1,266 4,229	2,389 1,917 6,222	2,437 1,914 6,222	2,403 1,926 6,234	2,401 1,891 6,425	2,413 1,916 6,478	2,088 1,820 6,072			
			New c	rders			Unfilled orders								
All manufacturing industries:	56 000	55 646	54.000	50.000	50 405	53, 557	00.775	04 000	04 000	04.324	00.000	90.05			
Total Total, excluding transportation	56,600 48,845	55,642 48,518	54,634 47,789	52,372 45,658	58,497 50,552	51,551 45,188	83,752 55,193	84,022 55,523	84,908 56,065	84,174 55,591	83,902 55,816	89,892 56,767			
Durable goods industries, total	30,722	29,743	29,476	28,099	32,062	28,355	80,810	81,106	81,945	81,181	80,921	86,759			
Primary metals, total	4,740	4,869	4,705	4,211	4,968	4,631	6,920	7,052	7,116	6,845	7,085	7,377			
Blast furnaces, steel mills	2,243	2,237 3,471	2,133 3,370	1,991 2,923	2,251 3,677	2,252 3,028	3,459	3,475	3,522 10,520	3,400 10,650	3,531	3,745			
Machinery, except electrical, total Engines and turbines	5,449 553	5,191	5,370 5,371 404	4,995 445	5,607 442	5,015 449	16,232 4,850	16,344 4,752	16,544 4,825	16,192 4,785	16,338 4,722	16,456 4,336			
Construction, mining, and material bandling equipment	682 307 527	755 266 552	707 289 545	665 273 512	805 297 574	648 293 477	2,257 1,343 1,558	2,275 1,399 1,600	2,233 1,477 1,607	2,291 1,346 1,574	2,307 1,386 1,613	2,071 1,943 1,583			
Electrical machinery, total	4,078	3,699	3,832	3,857	4,038	3,854	13,445	13,305	13,555	13,567	13,269	13,413			
Electrical transmission and distribution equipment and industrial apparatus Household appliances, including radio	,	748	707	677	844	677	3,412	3,436	3,462	3,441	3,483	3,429			
and TV	674 1,414	831 867	714 1,131	646 1,377	862 1,073	859 1,204	548 5,639	609 5,359	597 5,594	585 5,633	613 5,284	722 5,294			
Transportation equipment, total	7,755 2,917	7,124 2,204	6,845 2,620	6,714 2,925	7,945 2,486	6,363 2,561	28,559 21,880	28,499 21,767	28,843 22,212	28,583 21,845	28,086 21,485	33,125 25,72			
All other durable goods industries	5,581	5,389	5,353	5,399	5,827	5,464	5,172	5,190	5,367	5,344	5,298	6,050			
Nondurable goods industries, total		25,899	25,158	24,273	26,435	23,196	2,942	2,916	2,963	2,993	2,981	3,133			
Industries with unfilled orders Industries without unfilled orders	7,207 18,671	6,934 18,965	6,831 18,327	6,507 17,766	7,078 19,357	6,179 17,017	2,942	2,916	2,963	2,993	2,981	3,133			
P	r							-							

<sup>-</sup> Represents zero. Preliminary. Revised.

Adjusted for trading-day and calendar-mouth variations.

Table 2.--value of Manufacturers' Shipments, inventories, AND ORDERS, FOR MARKEI CATEGORIES AND SUPPLEMENTARY SERIES
(Millions of dollars)

Industry group	Seasonally adjusted			Without seasonal adjustment1			Season	ally adj	usted	Without seasonal adjustment				
	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970	May 1970	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970 <sup>r</sup>	July 1969	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970	May 1970	July 1970 <sup>P</sup>	June 1970 <sup>r</sup>	July 1969		
	Shipments							Total inventories						
All manufacturing industries, total	56,866	56,528	55,545	52,098	59,255	50,501	98,505	97,739	97,923	98,051	98,073	92,682		
Durable goods industries, total Nondurable goods industries, total	31,016 25,850	30,580 25,948	30,368 25,177	27,825 24,263	32,760 26,495	27,225 23,276	65,193 33,312	64,375 33,364	64,617 33,306	64,870 33,181	64,779 33,294	61,113 31,569		
Industry groups arranged by market categories:							ļ							
Home goods and apparel	4,753 10,909	4,936 11,214	4,593 10,802	4,274 10,427	4,732 11,464	4,500 10,051	9,841 12,599	9,763 12,619	9,867 12,612	10,144 12,286	10,303 12,273	10,035 11,675		
automotive	9,370 4,840	8,96 <b>5</b> 4,775	9,423 4,542	8,615 3,623	9,673 5,346	8,234 3,670	26,590 5,218	26,281 5,059	26,261 5,142	26,482 4,816	26,445 4,848	24,254 5,027		
Construction materials, supplies, and intermediate products	4,553	4,520	4,441	4,533	5,011	4,381	8,165	8,019	8,016	8,202	8,152	7,866		
intermediate products	22,441	22,118	21,744	20,616	23,029	19,665	36,092	35,998	36,025	36,121	36,052	33,825		
Supplementary series:  Household durable goods industries  Producers' capital goods industries  Defense products industries (old series).  Defense products (new series)*	2,036 6,673 4,223 2,074	2,155 6,454 4,019 2,089	2,058 6,653 4,254 1,999	1,784 6,149 3,865 1,892	2,142 6,995 4,204 2,192	1,988 5,709 3,828 1,899	5,088 17,400 12,831 7,154	4,962 17,101 12,788 7,099	5,039 16,966 12,961 7,235	5,193 17,293 12,846 7,166	5,209 17,135 12,943 7,170	5,068 15,526 12,471 7,727		
			New o	rders			Unfilled orders							
All manufacturing industries, total	56,600	55,642	54,634	52,372	58,497	51,551	83,752	84,022	84,908	84,174	83,902	89,892		
Durable goods industries, total Nondurable goods industries, total	30,722 25,878	29,743 25,899	29,476 25,158	28,099 24,273	32,062 26,435	28,355 23,196	80,610 2,942	81,106 2,916	81,945 2,963	81,181 2,993	80,921 2,981	86,759 3,133		
Industry groups arranged by market categories: Home goods and apparel	4,720	4,912	4,512	4,321	4,743	4,660	1							
Consumer staples  Equipment and defense products, except automotive	10,906 9,662	11,213 8,328	10,799	10,422	11,460 9,398	10,041 8,866	1,859	1,897	1,919	1,955	1,913	2,338		
Automotive equipment	4,814	4,732	4,340	3,654	5,262	3,676	15,420	45,152	45,834	45,573	44,901	48,343		
intermediate products Other materials and supplies and intermediate products	4,342	4,606	4,602 21,543	4,325	5,073	19,844	26,113	26,402	26,671	10,588	10,795	28,667		
Supplementary series: 2 Household durable goods industries Producers' capital goods industries Defense products industries (old series). Defense products (new series)*	2,011 6,465 4,604 2,970	2,142 6,354 3,318 1,738	1,995 6,211 4,003 1,853	1,845 6,057 4,553 3,010	2,168 6,861 3,843 2,034	2,162 6,000 4,042 2,447		1,555 24,028 27,577 18,974	1,566 24,129 28,279 19,326	1,612 23,944 27,922 19,855	1,552 24,044 27,235 18,738	1,950 24,339 31,587 21,935		

\*During 1968 manufacturers in ordnance, communications, aircraft and aircraft parts, and shipbuilding industries began to provide aggregate figures on shipments, orders, and total invectories of work performed for the Department of Defense. The results of these reports are included in these new defense series. Since there are no historic data available to develop separate seasonal factors for these reporters, the data have been seasonally adjusted using the factors of these industries. Preliminary. Revised. Shipments and new orders adjusted for trading-day and calcular-month variations; unfilled orders and inventories as of end of month.

The supplementary series are regroupings of the separate industry categories as follows:

Household durable goods industries - Household furniture; kitchen articles and pottery; cutlery, handtools, and hardware; household appliances; ophthalmic goods, watches, and clocks; and miscellaneous personal goods.

Producers' capital goods (formerly machinery and equipment) industries - Machinery, except electrical (excluding farm machinery and equipment and machine shops), electrical machinery (excluding household appliances, communication equipment and electronic components), shipbuilding and repairing, and railroad and street car equipment.

Defense products industries (old series) - Based on reports for companies classified in the communication equipment, complete aircraft, aircraft parts, and ordnance industries. (Thus, this series includes significant amounts of mondefense work in these industries and omits defense work performed in the shipbuilding industry.)

Defease products (new series) - 8ased on separate reports oo defease work filed by large defease contractors in the following industries: ordnance, communications, complete aircraft, aircraft parts, and ship building. Thus, it differs from the old series in that it includes defease activity in ship building and excludes condefease work in ordnance, communications, complete aircraft, and aircraft parts. The data are comparable to those published annually in the MA-175, Shipments of Defease-Oriented Industries, for the specified industries.

Table 3.--MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES, AND ORDERS MONTH-TO-MONTH AND LONG TERM PERCENT CHANGES

(Based on seasonally adjusted data)

Item and industry group	Month	-to-montb		Avei	rage montbly	Average, 1964-69			
	June r_	¥			3 months	12 months			
	July 1970	May- June 1970	April- May	April- July 1970	Jan April 1970	Oct. 1969- Jan. 1970	July 1969- July 1970	Average rise	Average decline
Shipments: All manufacturing industries	+0.6	+1.8	+2.4	+1.6	-0.5	-1.1	+0.2	+1.4	-1.1
Durable goods industries, total Nondurable goods industries, total	+1.4	+0.7 +3.1	+3.0 +1.8	+1.7 +1.5	-0.6 -0.4	-2.0 -0.1	+0.1	+1.9 +1.0	-2.1 -0.5
Total inventories: All manufacturing industries	+0.8	-0.2	+1.5	+0.7	+0.6	+0.4	+0.6	+0.7	-0.1
New orders: All manufacturing industries Durable goods industries, total Nondurable goods industries, total	+1.7 +3.3 -0.1	+1.8 +0.9 +2.9	+2.4 +3.0 +1.6	+2.0 +2.4 +1.5	-0.3 -0.3 -0.3	-1.8 -3.1 -0.2	+0.1 -0.1 +0.4	+1.8 +3.1 +1.1	-1.5 -2.4 -0.6
Unfilled orders: Durable goods industries, total	-0.4	-1.0	-1.1	-0.8	-1.1	-0.3	-0.6	+1.1	-0.6

Table 4.--RATIO OF MANUFACTURERS' INVENTORIES TO SHIPMENTS AND UNFILLED ORDERS TO SHIPMENTS, BY INDUSTRY GROUP

(Based on seasonally adjusted data)

Unfilled orders - shipments ratio1 Inventories - shipments ratio (months' backlog) Industry group July 1970<sup>p</sup> June 1970 July 1970<sup>p</sup> June 1970 May July May July 1970 1969 1970 1969 1.73 1.76 1.68 2.43 2.48 2.64 2.40 All manufacturing industries, total..... Durable goods industries, total..... 2.10 2.11 2.13 2.01 2.91 2.95 2.98 3.20 Stone, clay, and glass products...... 1.83 1.73 1.74 1.77 (NA) (NA) (NA) (NA) 1.75 1.79 1.63 1.43 1.48 1.56 1.77 1.42 Fabricated metals..... 2.01 2.03 2.09 2.07 3.44 3.60 3.65 3.64 2.55 2.47 2.38 3.03 2.99 3.13 2.51 2.92 2.46 2.30 3.37 3.51 3.38 2.45 3.41 Transportation equipment..... 2.00 2.03 2.05 1.91 5.74 5.77 5.64 6.82 2.24 2.35 2.19 (NA) (NA) (NA) Instruments and related products..... 2.38 (NA) 1.28 0.45 Nondurable goods industries, total..... 1.29 1.29 1.32 0.41 0.42 0.43 0.90 0.90 (x) 0.89 0.86 (x) (x) (x) Food and kindred products..... 5.25 4.69 5.18 4.68 (X) (X) (x) Tobacco products..... Textile mill products..... 1.87 1.94 1.98 1.96 (NA) (NA) (NA) (NA) (NA) Paper and allied products..... 1.11 1.18 1.16 1.07 (NA) (NA) (NA) 1.63 (X) (x) (X) (X) 1.64 1.55 Chemicals and allied products..... 1.64 1.12 1.02 (x) (x) Petroleum and coal products.... 1.13 1.12 Rubber and plastics products, n.e.c..... 1.18 1.25 1.30 1.33 (x) (x) (x)

<sup>(</sup>NA) Not available. Preliminary. Revised. (X) Not applicable.

Excludes the following industries with no unfilled orders: Wooden containers; glass containers; metal caus, barrels and drums; motor vehicle assembly operations; foods and related products; tobacco; apparel and related products; chemicals; petroleum and coal products; and rubber and plastics products, n.e.c.

Table 5.--VALUE OF MANUFACTURERS' INVENTORIES, BY STAGE OF FABRICATION, BY INDUSTRY GROUP (Millions of dollars)

					,									
Industry group	Seasonally adjusted			Witbout seasonal adjustment			Seasonally adjusted			Without seasonal adjustment				
	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970	May 1970	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970	July 1969	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970	May 1970	July 1970 <sup>p</sup>	June 1970	July 1969		
	Total							Materials and supplies						
All manufacturing industries, total	98,505	97,739	97,923	98,051	98,073	92,682	29,557	29,395	29,417	29,312	29,136	28,558		
Durable goods industries, total	65,193	64,375	64,617	64,870	64,779	61,113	17,664	17,479	17,480	17,524	17,364	16,993		
Stone, clay, and glass products	2,631 8,621 23,612 15,386 14,943	2,557 8,608 23,246 15,163 14,801	2,575 8,649 23,170 15,359 14,864	2,636 8,544 23,526 15,026 15,138		2,468 7,729 21,516 14,773 14,627	841 3,036 5,637 3,154 4,996	808 3,063 5,620 3,039 4,949	816 3,055 5,570 3,078 4,961	840 3,024 5,718 2,864 5,078	815 2,968 5,645 2,936 5,000	791 2,749 5,216 3,129 5,108		
Nondurable goods industries, total	33,312	33,364	33,306	33,181	33,294	31,569	11,893	11,916	11,937	11,788	11,772	11,565		
Chemicals and allied products	6,943 2,389 1,917 22,063	6,893 2,437 1,914 22,120	6,826 2,403 1,926 22,151	6,937 2,401 1,891 21,952	6,872 2,413 1,916 22,093	6,383 2,088 1,826 21,272	2,287 541 596 8,469	2,277 546 607 8,486	2,266 542 607 8,522	2,304 551 612 8,321	2,282 559 610 8,321	2,218 477 593 8,277		
	Work in process						Finished goods							
All manufacturing industries, total	35,443	35,245	35,443	35,399	35,332	33,623	33,505	33,099	33,063	33,340	33,605	30,501		
Durable goods industries, total	30,498	30,243	30,418	30,391	30,281	28,618	17,031	16,653	16,719	16,955	17,134	15,502		
Stone, clay, and glass products	389 2,905 11,088 10,712 5,404	374 2,921 11,005 10,620 5,323	382 2,943 10,979 10,773 5,341	393 2,882 10,984 10,664 5,468	387 2,881 11,008 10,572 5,433	395 2,665 10,262 10,188 5,108	1,401 2,680 6,887 1,520 4,543	1,375 2,624 6,621 1,504 4,529	1,377 2,651 6,621 1,508 4,562	1,403 2,638 6,824 1,498 4,592	1,405 2,642 6,863 1,511 4,713	1,282 2,315 6,038 1,456 4,411		
Nondurable goods industries, total	4,945	5,002	5,025	5,008	5,051	5,005	16,474	16,446	16,344	16,385	16,471	14,999		
Chemicals and allied products	892 514 322 3,217	893 538 314 3,257	901 530 306 3,288	892 526 318 3,272	890 546 311 3,304	944 493 315 3,253	3,764 1,334 999 10,377	3,723 1,353 993 10,377	3,659 1,331 1,013 10,341	3,741 1,324 961 10,359	3,700 1,308 995 10,468	3,221 1,118 918 9,742		

Preliminary. Revised.

### **Appendix**

The following is a description of the survey and definitions used. These are provided to clarify the meaning of the items involved and do not represent any revisions from those definitions previously employed.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVEY

The Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders survey provides monthly figures that are comparable to the annual totals published each year in the annual survey of manufactures (ASM). The ASM is based on a sample of approximately 60.000 manufacturing establishments drawn from the 5-year census universe of about 310,000 establishments. In the ASM, each manufacturing establishment provides data on employment, payrolls, shipments, cost of materials, capital expenditures, and inventories as well as other selected items. The establishments do not provide information on unfilled orders or new orders. Since the ASM is establishment based, it provides data for each of the 425 manufacturing industries in the Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC) and area data for industry groups.

The monthly survey M3-1 does not provide information at the complete SIC industry detail because of the smaller size of the reporting panel and the fact that most companies cannot provide shipments, inventories, and orders data monthly for individual establishments.

The monthly reporting panel consists of approximately 5,000 reporting units and includes virtually all companies with 1,000 or more employees and a sample of the smaller ones. The reporting unit typically comprises the entire operations of a company although many of the larger diversified companies file separate divisional type reports for their operations in different industries.

Most of the reporting units include mixed industry activity even within the broad industry categories of the monthly survey. The survey methodology assumes that the month-to-month changes of the reporting units classified in each industry category represent effectively the month-to-month movements of the establishments in the SIC industries which make up the category. Thus, the monthly reports are used to update the ASM estimates by using a link relative of matched companies in each industry.

#### EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Value of Shipments.—Shipments in the monthly survey are equivalent to value of shipments as reported in the ASM which are received or receivable net selling values, f.o.b. plant, after discounts and allowances and excluding freight charges and excise taxes. Included in shipments are the value of all products sold, transferred to other plants of the same company, or shipped on consignment.

Shipments also include receipts of establishments in the industry for contract work performed for others, resales, receipts for miscellaneous activities such as the sale of scrap and refuse; value of installation and repair work performed by employees of the plant; and value of research and development performed at the plant. In the aircraft industry and shipbuilding, the value of work done in a given year varies considerably from the value of shipments because of the long lead time between the input of the materials and labor and the shipments of the completed aircraft or ship. In the annual survey, therefore, the value of work done during the year is requested rather than the value of shipments.

The value of shipments figures developed from the ASM contain duplication at the all manufacturing and industry group levels since the products of some industries are used as materials by other industries within the industry group. With the exception of motor vehicles, it is not significant at the 4-digit SIC group level. Since the M3-1 industry categories typically are groupings of industries, this duplication is significant for the all manufacturing, durable goods and nondurable goods categories and the various market groups. The significance of the duplication within the specific M3-1 industry groups varies depending on the 4-digit industry composition of these groups. It is most pronounced in a few highly integrated industry areas such as primary metals and motor vehicles and parts.

Since most monthly reports are for the entire company or major divisions rather than establishments, the companies are requested to report net sales, i.e., total company billings after discounts and allowances. Companies which file divisional reports are requested to treat transfers from one division of the company to another as if they were net sales to outside customers. Although this



definition of shipments in the monthly reports differs from that used in the annual establishment reports, it is assumed that the month-to-month changes in company sales in the industry are representative of the month-to-month shipments of the establishments in the industry.

Inventories—End-of-month inventories in the monthly survey are identical in definition to the end-of-year inventories in the ASM. In the ASM, respondents are asked to report inventories of individual establishments at approximate current cost if feasible; otherwise, "at book values." Since different methods of inventory valuation are used (LIFO, FIFO, etc.), the definition of the aggregate inventories for establishments in an industry is not precise. The figures on the change in inventories from one period to the next are of greater significance than the actual aggregates.

Inventories are reported by stage of fabrication: (a) finished goods; (b) work in process; and (c) materials, supplies, fuel, and other inventories. In using inventories by stage of fabrication at the all manufacturing and 2-digit industry levels as well as for the durable and non-durable goods sectors, it should be noted that a finished product of one industry may be a raw material for another industry at the next stage of fabrication. Insofar as the durable and nondurable goods sectors and also the 2-digit industry groups contain industries with successive stages of processing, the same type of commodity may be included under different inventory categories in the aggregate statistics.

New Orders Received and Unfilled Orders--

Orders as reported in the monthly survey are net of cancellations during the month. They include orders received during the period and also filled during the period as well as those orders received for future delivery. They also include the net sales value of contract change documents which increase or decrease the sales value of the unfilled orders to which they relate. Orders include only those supported by binding legal documents such as signed contracts, or letter contracts. In case of letter contracts the full amount of the sales value is included if the parties are insubstantial agreement on the amount; otherwise, only the funds specifically authorized to be expended are included. The respondent is instructed to deduct the sales value of partial or complete cancellation of existing orders.

Unfilled orders include orders as defined above that have not yet passed through the sales account. Generally, unfilled orders at the end of the reporting period are equal to unfilled orders at the beginning of the period plus net new orders received less net sales.

While both new orders and unfilled orders are used in reviewing individual company reports for consistency, only unfilled orders are estimated directly in the tabulated totals. New orders are derived from the shipments plus net change in unfilled orders for each industry category. This procedure is followed for seasonally adjusted data as well as for the unadjusted data. Shipments and unfilled orders are seasonally adjusted independently. Seasonally adjusted new orders are derived from seasonally adjusted shipments and seasonally adjusted unfilled orders.